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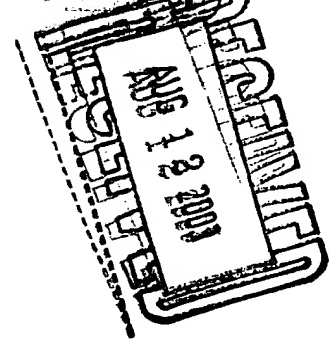
Attorney Docket No. 045054/0139

Applicant: Yuji UOTA
Title: SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT METHOD, DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT
SYSTEM AND STORAGE MEDIUM STORING PROGRAMS OF
SAME
Serial No. 09/824,692
Filed: April 4, 2001
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 2122

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB08 is a list of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any documents which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that items of information A2 – A6 listed on the Form PTO SB/08 submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement. Item of information A1 is a U.S. Patent that is a counterpart to item of information A4.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued June 17, 2003 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

“Regarding Claims 1 through 22
Cited Examples 1 through 3

Remarks

For example, it is a common practice for a software developer (and in particular, a freeware developer) to establish a

bulletin board and to receive questions and requests from the users on the bulletin board when publishing software on the Internet.

In light of this, the invention of the present application could have been obtained as appropriate by an individual in the industry by applying the aforementioned common practice to a technology for publishing design assets on the Internet/intranet, as described in Cited Examples 1 and 2.

Or, the creation of the invention of the present application through the application the technology described in Cited Example 3 to the technologies described in Cited Examples 1 and 2 is something that could be obtained as appropriate by an individual in the industry. Note that in Cited Example 3, the message exchange device (the electronic bulletin boards server or the electronic mail server) is separate from the design output shared database; however, combining the two is nothing more than a design modification that could be obtained as appropriate by an individual in the industry.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-224284
2. Kōichi Satō and two others, *WWW to DB renkei shisutemu wo riyō shita intoranetto no kōsei* [The structure of an intranet using the World Wide Web and a database link system], Information Processing Society, National Conference Proceedings; Information Processing Society, 3/14/1997, vol. 54, no. 3, pages 195–196 (Internal document number: National Society Document 2002-00406-001).
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H9-204459

(Related Technical Documentation)

1. Kiyomi Daishidō and one other, *Intoranetto katsuyō denshi buhin jōhō shisutemu* [Electronic component data systems using an intranet], Information Processing Society Research Reports, Data Processing Association, 6/18/1997, volume

97, no. 59 (IS-64), pp. 25-31 196 (Internal document number: National Society Document 1997-00007-0004).

2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H8-235231

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection."

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action is based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. This statement should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicant respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

August 6, 2003
Date

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